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Front Cover: A house built by a Cameroonian working in the DRC, modest in scale but of a very high quality and finish.

Photo Credit: Dr Ben Page

Co-Directors' Report

The close of the academic year 2012-13 marks a period of change in the Migration Research Unit. Two key members of the research unit are on the move. JoAnn McGregor moves to the University of Sussex to take up a position as Chair in African Studies. JoAnn was the first convenor of our highly successful MSc in Global Migration and her involvement in the degree will be missed as well as her research leadership particularly on asylum seekers and the Zimbabwean Diaspora. Pablo Mateos is also leaving London to take up a new position in Mexico at CIESAS, a Social Anthropology Research Centre in Guadalajara. Pablo was the force behind UCL's Global Migration Network which led to the establishment of the MSc and to a range of keynote events in 2009-11. He will however remain affiliated to MRU and UCL as an honorary lecturer and we hope to continue our research collaboration. We are pleased to announce that Dr Tarig Jazeel, who is joining the geography department as a Reader, will be affiliated to the Migration Research Unit. Tarig's research focuses on Sri Lanka and postcolonial theory and he will be developing new courses for MSc students in Global Migration.

Details of the ongoing research activities of members of the MRU are included in this report including a range of exhibitions organised in association with Liz Hingley, 'Artist in Residence' in the MRU in 2012. In addition to other activities in 2013, we launched a first UCL Migration Photography Competition in association with UCL's Environment Institute.

Dr Claire Dwyer & Professor John Salt (Co-Directors, MRU)

MRU Research

Emeritus Professor John Salt (Co-Director)



The Leverhulme Research Programme co-directed by John, *Migration and Ethnicity* (2003-2011), a joint programme with the University of Bristol was concluded at the end of

2011. It involved eight research projects, the findings of which were published in *Global Migration, Ethnicity and Britishness*, (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011 (hardback), 2012 (paperback)).

During 2012 and 2013, John and Professor Peter Wood have been developing new research based on some of the findings of the Leverhulme programme. The new study focuses on the international branch campuses of UK universities and, specifically, whether in opening these the institutions are behaving like multinational commercial enterprises.

John's major work continues as UK SOPEMI Correspondent to the OECD for whom he writes the Annual Report on International Migration and the UK. For several years he has been co-author of the section on new policy developments in member states in the OECD's flagship annual volume International Migration Outlook. He has completed a number of commissioned reports from the Home Office including European Migration Network: Satisfying Labour Demand Through Migration, 2010 and European Migration Network: Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics for the UK, 2007.

John has also become the first Chairman of the Home Office's Migration Statistics Users Forum, in its affiliation to the Royal Statistical Society. He continues to be on the ONS expert panel on population projections and on the ONS Centre for Demography Advisory Group.



Dr Claire Dwyer (Co-Director)

Claire has been continuing her research on transnational suburban

religious landscapes in Canada, where she's worked in collaboration with colleagues at the University of British Columbia, and West London.

In addition to several published papers she is also working on a book manuscript entitled 'Buddhas, Madonnas and Gurus in Suburbia: faith, migration and suburban change'.



A photography exhibition, produced in collaboration with Liz Hingley and six senior citizens from her West London research sites, was shown at UCL and at Gunnersbury Park Museum, Ealing in 2013 (above and see page 12).

MRU Research



Dr Janet Dobson

Janet is a senior research associate with the MRU. Her primary interest is in child migration, the school system and wider

migration. She is currently working with John Salt on an analysis of the impact of the government's policy to cut net immigration.



Dr Tariq Jazeel

Tariq's research is broadly situated at the intersections of cultural geography, postcolonial theory and South Asian

studies. He has worked on the politics of ethnicity and difference in Sri Lanka, and also on diasporic and transnational forms of South Asian cultural production, including literature and music. His work on diasporic and transnational formations maintains an interest in the politics of hybridity, authenticity and tolerance as they are deployed in multiculturalism.



The politics of British Asian dance music.



Sri Lankan Women's Association members voting in the UK for the first time, 1952.

Currently, he is engaged in a project that critically explores the left's recuperation of cosmopolitanism as a political imagination for living with difference. This work seeks to interrogate the latent geographical imaginations embedded in recent turns toward cosmopolitics.



Dr Alan Latham

Alan's primary research interests are in contemporary urbanism with particular interests in sociality, globalisation and corporeal mobility.



Dr Charlotte Lemanski

Charlotte's primary research interests are in the changing dynamics and social structures of South African

cities and the participation of the urban poor in urban governance in India and South Africa.



Dr Ben Page

Ben's research this year has focused on the process of house-building in Cameroon by members of the diaspora, as part of

an ongoing analysis of the relationship between migration and development. The project began with a series of department seminars with papers from Giles Omezi, Luke Freeman, Antony King, Christien Klaufus, and Felipe Hernandez. This was followed by two months of field research in Buea and Awing in Cameroon.

The field work revealed that whilst international migration was an important source of capital and ideas for new housing, many of the new houses being built were actually constructed by local businessmen and civil servants. The houses being built by those from overseas were often more modest structures that were used for annual holidays or were being built with retirement in mind. The ostentatious display of wealth in pursuit of status was not as important to many migrants as it was to local house-builders. For many international migrants one of the key drivers was to have a home where

their children (born overseas) would feel comfortable when they returned home with the hope that they would perpetuate the relationship with the homeland into the next generation. Reciprocally several homes were being constructed by those living overseas on behalf of their retired parents back home. Many migrants chose to build in larger urban centres, but some were also building in their natal villages - these houses had particular significance during 'traditional' ceremonies, most obviously burials and death celebrations when they became an individuals 'die-house' where they could entertain family and friends.



From the local government perspective these new houses (built both by members of diaspora and local members of a new middle class) were unambiguously seen as 'development' and as a result a lax attitude was being taken to building permit tax collection and planning regulations. As a result not only was public revenue being lost but there are some questions over the safety and quality of the new structures.



Photo of the same house as shown on page 4, showing double height parlour, staff ceiling and family photo gallery.

Visitors to the MRU

Dr Basile Ndjio

Dr Basile Ndjio a lecturer in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Douala in Cameroon visited the MRU for six months as an Affiliate Academic at UCL courtesy of the Urban Studies Foundation. Dr Nadjio's research focuses on as transnational Cameroonian fraudsters, youth and social change in Douala, Chinese commercial sex workers in Africa, and the connections between social relations and domestic architecture among the Bamileke.



A house paid for by a group of children living in the USA and Europe for their parents in Cameroon. The project was designed and supervised by their father back in Cameroon.

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Dr Schlomit Flint

Marie Curie Fellow at UCL Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA).

Intra-European Fellowships (IEF). FP7-PEOPLE-2012-IEF



Beyond Municipal Limits - this research examines the tension between collectivist and individuals' societies struggle to gain predominance in the urban space. The case study is east London, where minorities preserve tradition based on family ties in compact areas. The differences in life-

style characterizations and the relations between the individuals and their group led to open conflict over the residential space. The research is designed to recognize latent orders that determine residential dynamics of minorities, spotlighting in high resolution the role of group versus individual residential behaviours.

Figure 1, for example, exposes the density mechanism that enables certain sub-groups to maintain higher density than others. Combining high-resolution spatial analysis with urban planning and public policy disciplines, this study propose parameters for identifying, formulating, and assessing the socio-spatial mechanisms which influence the residential dynamic of groups.

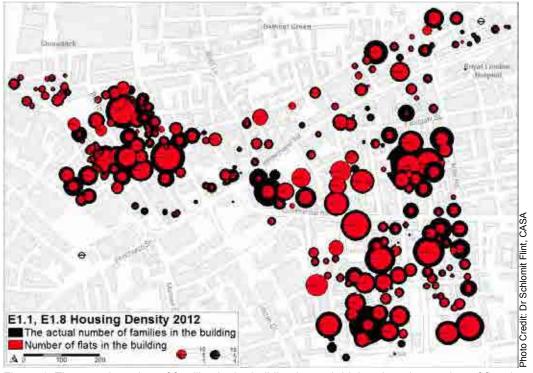


Figure 1: The actual number of families in the building is much higher than the number of flats in the building. As well as an indication of poverty, this gap affects facilities and services.

Postgraduate Research

15 research students in geography and other disciplines are affiliated to the Migration Research Unit. The work of some recent graduates and current students is highlighted below.



In September 2013, **Darya Malyutina** completed her PhD titled 'Migrant sociality in a "global city": friendship, transnational networks, racism and cosmopolitanism A study

of Russian-speaking migrants in London'



In her work, she focused on informal relationships unfolding amongst Russian-speaking migrants, and between migrants and other Londoners, concentrating on the city as a contested social space offering possibilities for development of a variety of exclusive and inclusive

relationships and negotiation of group boundaries.



Above and right: a Russian bar and a grocery shop.



In June 2013, Cinzia Polese completed her PhD on asylum policy in Italy and the United Kingdom, 'Negotiating power between civil society and the state: the

formulation of asylum policies in Italy and in the United Kingdom'.

The thesis sought to account for similarities and differences between asylum legislation in the two countries via an examination of the context and processes of policy making. The interaction between stakeholders in creating asylum policy and how the nature of this interaction varied between different types of state were key. The thesis drew on a range of different research methods aimed at understanding the role of key stakeholders including élite interviewing, documentary evidence from parliamentary debates, NGO reports, and analysis of newspaper articles.



Sainabou Taal.

Her PhD research is entitled Development, politics and the diaspora: accountability and liberal interventionism in Gambian diaspora

associations. It focuses on the role of African Diaspora in politics, looking at why they intervene in the politics of their homeland and how they influence political change. The overarching theme of the research will be the developmental potential of political diasporas through their interventions.



Ruth Judge.
Her PhD research
is about youthwork
initiatives which take

young people on short 'voluntourism' trips to developing countries. It

focuses in particular on schemes which engage young people deemed socially marginalised or 'at risk', and how these brief encounters with 'abroad' shape the identifications of the young people who experience them. Case studies involve multi-ethnic groups of young people - many second generation migrants - growing up on two London council estates and going on trips to Kenya and Zimbabwe.



Young people engaging in 'voluntourism' trips abroad undertake physical and emotional labour to become certain types of young subjects.



One of the case study sites in the UK.



Embodied experiences, such as dancing together, form an important part of the identity work on these trips abroad.

Sainabou Taal with the first president of The Gambia, Sir Dawda Jawara.

The thesis will adopt theories of liberal interventionism and accountability as it aims create a better understanding of the strategies, beliefs and actions of African diasporas in contemporary politics. The originality of the research derives from the fact that this type of extensive research has never been conducted on The Gambia or its diaspora.

At the end of 2013 fieldwork will be drawing to a close, having explored both the narratives that aim to shape young people into certain types of young 'multicultural' citizens on these trips, as well as the ways young people actually experience and negotiate processes of identity construction via their travel experiences and, in particular, how embodied and emotional forces play into this. The research aims to understand the complex entanglements of travel, tourism and migration histories that shape young people's intersectional identifications.

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MSc Global Migration

A second MRU MSc Global Migration Student Conference was held at UCL in June 2013

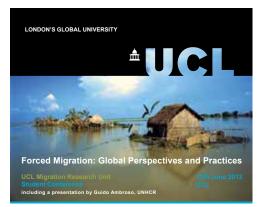
The second MRU Student Conference on Forced Migration: Global Perspectives and Practices took place on 12th June 2013. The conference brought a great variety of people together, not only graduate students who are involved in research projects on forced migration but also undergraduate students interested in the subject as well as refugees and people working to provide front-line services for migrants in the UK. This diversity of people led to a fruitful exchange of new ideas and recommendations fostered by the fourteen presentations of graduate students.

The aim of the conference - questioning the definition of forced migration - was creatively addressed in many presentations throughout the day, notably by Mert Perksen in his research on the displacement of Kurds in Turkey in the 1990s. Other important issues raised during the conference, included

the (in)visibility of migrants and the weak role of the state in facilitating positive integration of asylum seekers. The day was concluded with a presentation from Guido Ambroso, Senior Programme Evaluation Officer at the UNHCR, who spoke openly and engagingly about his work and experience while working for the organisation. It was a long, yet exciting day, with participants and speakers from all over Europe interacting and discussing their mutual personal, political and research interests.

Larissa Van Es,
Sam Yelland,
Ana Macouzet
Menendez, Lorna
Gledhill, Siril
Berglund, Elizabeth
Connely (MSc
Global Migration
Student Conference
organisers, 2013).





As we turn further into the hearty-first century, our ways of making sense of the world are becoming increasingly components. Shifting causes and patterns of human movement are excusinging a reassessment of perspectives and practices of change, tood security and the economic crisis, as well as the continuation of existing pressures, the proteated refugee situations and internal displacement, have dismatically where the feel. If people are not forced by the vicient or home due to natural disselsers or poverty, to what extent can they be considered forced migrants?

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knowledge between students working on these issues.

The conference will conclude with a talk by Guido Ambroso. Senior Evalua

, Senior Evaluation R. R. Research Unit

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Migration Research Unit

ar for evert (Registration closes 31st May):

If Like us on Facebook com/UCL Migration Research Student Conference

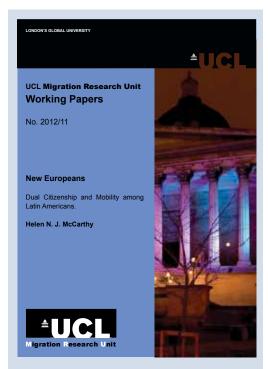
| Follow us on Twitter
| Www.facebook.com/UCL Migration Research Student Conference
| Www.facebook.com/UCL Migration Research Student Conference

MSc Student Volunteering

Many students on the MSc Global Migration are able to combine their studies with voluntary work for migrant organisations. Such work provides stimulus for topics for dissertation research and builds important links for MRU research. Darja Markek describes her experience as a volunteer with Women for Refugee Women.

Between October 2012 and June 2013 I volunteered with Women for Refugee Women (WRW), a London-based charity which campaigns against the injustices that women seeking asylum in the UK face. My experience at WRW was great. Volunteering with a relatively small organisation, I was able to get involved in a range of diverse projects over the year. I worked closely with Women Asylum Seekers Together (WAST) London and the London Refugee Women's Forum (LRWF) – two groups closely affiliated to

WRW. Together with the members of these groups, I attended events in Parliament and met with MPs, participated in campaigning workshops and taught English in the weekly Monday WAST classes. In addition, I organised social events including the WAST Christmas party, and helped out with conducting research for reports. My experience as a volunteer also contributed to the development of an idea for my dissertation. Overall, I was really happy to have this opportunity as it allowed me to complement my studies with practical experience.



UCL MRU Working Papers

MRU working papers continue to publish the best research from Global Migration MSc students and others in the MRU. The latest papers can be accessed here: www.geog.ucl.ac.uk/research/transnational-spaces/migration-research-unit/working-papers/working-papers



Artist in Residence

In January 2012 award-winning photographer Liz Hingley began a 12 month residency in the MRU funded by the Leverhulme Trust

RU funded by the Leverhulme Trust

ng the year Liz developed a number of trade and significations.

During the year Liz developed a number of works related to her on going interests in urban multi-faith neighbourhood and the



Belleville Bazaar.

trade and significance of religious objects. Drawing on her research in the immigrant neighbourhood of Belleville in Paris, she produced an installation *Belleville Bazaar* first shown in the Pearson Cubes at UCL, then at an exhibition in Paris in June 2012 and in Austin Texas in August. The installation accompanied the display of Liz's photographs 'Under gods: stories from Soho Road'.



Spiritual Object Portrait Series.

A second photographic project Spiritual Object Portrait Series photographed individuals with a meaningful spiritual object and asked them to write a few sentences about the object which were then superimposed on the image.

www.lizhingley.com



Faith in Suburbia

Exhibition at UCL and Gunnersbury Park Museum

Liz Hingley worked with Dr Claire Dwyer on a participant photography project with senior citizens in Ealing and Hanwell (West London). Participants visited and photographed each others places of worship to produce an exhibition 'Faith in Suburbia' which was shown at UCL in December 2012 – January 2013 and at Gunnersbury Park Museum from February – June 2013. The project supported Claire's ongoing research on faith, migration and suburban change.







SERCO Launch

The Zimbabwe Association launch of SERCO magazine and exhibition

Liz Hingley worked with Dr JoAnn McGregor and the Zimbabwe Association on a photography project about the experience of Zimbabwean asylum seekers.

The project produced a photo story in the format of a glossy fashion magazine featuring Rukai, a Zimbabwean women's knitting group and a feature on recreating Zimbabwean recipes with food bought with asylum vouchers.

The magazine was launched at an exhibition at Oxford House in April 2013.



Events

Anchor and Magnet Project

Anchor and Magnet was a 5 month project funded by Arts Council England lead by UCL Bartlett PhD student Katy Beinart. artist and curator Barby Asante and creative producer Kate Theophilus. The project was also supported by funding from UCL and linked to the MRU via the involvement of Claire Dwyer and four MSc Global Migration student volunteers. The project sought to explore a shared interest in place, identity, migration and belonging, with a focus on Brixton, South London, and its market, through participatory dialogue and public events.



A Game of dominoes with Stockwell Good Neighbours.







http://anchorandmagnet.wordpress.com/ https://soundcloud.com/anchorandmagnet



Stockwell Good Neighbours visiting Anchor and Magnet.

The project worked with those from smigrant backgrounds, documenting their memories, and connecting these back into dialogues with key stakeholders in the regeneration process. During a residency in a railway arch in Brixton a performance dinner was held, a market stall was run and a conference 'The Brixton Exchange' was hosted. Artistic outcomes also included a newspaper pullout, a domino set (customised to represent Brixton landmarks and key memories and places) and a range of heritage products which were traded for stories.

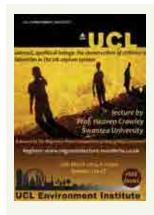


Anchor and Magnet conference 'The Brixton Exchange'.



'The Golden Temple' Film Premiere

In partnership with the Urban Lab, the MRU hosted the UK premiere of the film 'The Golden Temple' by Enrico Massi on 8th February 2013.



Heaven Crawley Lecture

asexual apolitical beings: construction of children's identities in the UK asylum system

UCL's Environment Institute, in partnership with the MRU, hosted a lecture by Professor Heaven Crawley, University of Swansea, on 19th March 2013.

UCL / CRONEM Conference

The MRU partnered with the University of Surrey / CRONEM in the organisation of an interdisciplinary conference 'The future of Multiculturalism: structures, integration policies and practices', 26th-27th June 2012. Plenary speakers included Professor Ted Cantle (Coventry University), Professor Mary Hickman (London Metropolitan University), Don Flynn (Migrants' Rights Network), Dr Chris Allen (University of Birmingham).



(left to right): Chris Allen, Don Flynn, Mary Hickman, Claire Dwyer.



(left to right): Mary Hickman, Claire Dwyer.

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Events

Photography Competition: Changing Moving People Lives.

The competition was held under the theme of 'Moving People, Changing Lives' and was open to all UCL staff and students.

The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize winners, as well as seven highly commended entries were on display at UCL from 18th-22nd March (Cloisters) and at the NORFACE Conference, 10th-13th April 2013.



1st Prize Winner: Signs of the Times.



2nd Prize Winner: Farewell Monstrous View.



Sponsored by: MRU, UCL Environment Institute, and the Grand Challenge of Intercultural Interaction (GCii).



3rd Prize Winner: La Esperanza.

COMMENDED

Seven 'highly commended' entries.



Abandoned Fairground, Pripyat, Chernobyll 2011.



The City Stands Opposite a Roma

Seminar Series



People Moving with the Flow.



Torn Village, Ethiopia.





Urban Poverty.

Traffic Jam. Lahore. Pakistan.

The MRU runs a fortnightly seminar series and also co-organises the London Migration Research Group Seminar series.

Speakers in Autumn 2013

18th October: Dr Shlomit Flint (Honorary Research Associate, CASA, UCL).

The unknown contribution of unregistered populations to the residential dynamics of British Cities.

25th October: Liz Hingley

(MRU Leverhulme Artist in Residence). Reflections on a year spent at UCL as the MRU Artist in Residence.

For full details see our web pages: www.geog.ucl.ac.uk/research/ transnational-spaces/migrationresearch-unit

15th November: Dr Federica Mazzara

(UCL. Italian Studies).

Bodies of Lampedusa: Migration, Law and the Image.

29th November: Professor Louise Ryan

(Middlesex University).

Wives are the route to social life: the form and function of family networks among highly skilled migrants.

13th December: James Esson (UCL).

Better off at home? Investigating policy responses to 'football trafficking.



, UCL Student UCL Staff

Selected Recent Publications

Dwyer, C., Gilbert, D. & Shah, B. (2013). 'Faith and suburbia: secularisation, modernity and the changing geographies of religion in London's suburbs'. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 38(3), 403-419.

Dwyer, C. & Parutis, V. (2013). 'Faith in the system?': State-funded faith schools in England and the contested parameters of community cohesion. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 38(2), 267-284.

Jazeel, T. (2013). Sacred Modernity: nature, environment and the postcolonial geographies of Sri Lankan nationhood. Liverpool University Press, Liverpool.

Jazeel, T. (2013). Dissimulated landscapes: postcolonial method and the politics of space in southern Sri Lanka. *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*, 31(1), 61-79.

Latham, A. R., Koch, R. (2012). On the Hard Work of Domesticating a Public Space. *Urban Studies: an international journal for research in urban studies,* online doi:10.1177/0042098012447001.

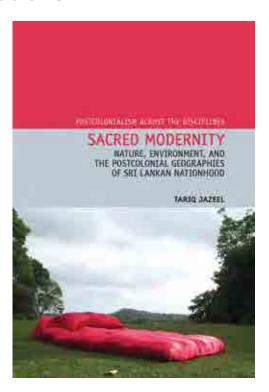
Lemanski, C., 2012. 'Everyday human (in)security in cities of the global South: a call to re-scale the security agenda', *Security Dialogue*, 43(1), 62-79.

Salt, J. & Wood, P. A., 2012. 'Recession and international corporate mobility', *Global Networks,* 12(4), 425-445.

OECD Secretariat, Lubyova, M. & **Salt, J.,** 2013. Recent developments in international movements and policies 15-62 in *International Migration Outlook*, OECD, Paris.

Page, B. (2011). Fear of small distances: home associations in Douala, Dar es Salaam and London. In Brickell, K., Datta, A. (Eds.). *Translocal geographies: spaces, places, connections* (pp.127-144). Ashgate Pub Co.

Salt J., 2012. International Migration and the UK. Annual Report of the UK SOPEMI, Correspondent to the OECD, London, UCL Migration Research Unit.



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Salt, J. & Wood, P. A., 2013. 'Staffing UK university campuses overseas: lessons from MNE practice'. Journal of Studies in International Education, (XX(X) 1-14). Available on-line at: http://jsi.sagepub.com/content/early/2013/04/15/1028315313483773.full. pdf+html

Wood, P. A. & Salt, J., 2012. 'Shifting portfolios of international labour mobility among UK-based business consultancies', *Geoforum*, 43(4), 815-823.

For all other publications see the staff members pages.

MRU Staff

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Dr Claire DwyerCo-Director

Dr Janet Dobson Honorary Senior Research Associate

Dr Tariq JazeelReader in Geography

Dr Alan LathamSenior Lecturer in Geography

Dr Charlotte Lemanski Senior Lecturer in Geography

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